



EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT A LOTUS

the
HIT LIST
AGENDA

ISSUE #2 of 3

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HIT LIST AGENDA • COVER A
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"LESSON PLAN"

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PART 2 OF 3

The story so far...

The blood of an innocent child named Lotus, and memories of a lifetime filled with pain and misery haunted the assassin known as Rani until her breaking point. Honorably sacrificing her life unto the hands of the child's father Virat, the contract killer took up her name—and his cause—to elevate the standing of the Republic of India. In just a short time as his Executive Assistant, Lotus's actions have already begun to take deadly effect, and ignite turmoil in the entire region. The Hit List Agenda continues now...



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FOREST LAWN CEMETARY,
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

IT IS
IMPORTANT TO
SHOW GOOD
FACE.

NATURALLY

AFTER MEETING CHING'S EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT, IRIS, I DID MY HOMEWORK
ON WHO EXACTLY SHE WAS. I WISH I HADN'T. SHE IS WHAT I SUSPECTED
SHE WOULD BE. LIKE MYSELF, SHE IS AN EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT. NOW,
SHE IS MISSING. WHERE HAVE YOU GONE MISSING TO, IRIS?

MR.
YADAV!
VIRAT!

DIANE
COVERDALE, HOW
WONDERFUL TO SEE
YOU AGAIN. DANIEL,
A PLEASURE AS
ALWAYS.

VIRAT, THE PLEASURE
IS ALL OURS. ONLY I WISH
IT WERE UNDER BETTER
CIRCUMSTANCES. CHING
WAS... A MAN OF GREAT
DETERMINATION.

I WAS JUST TELLING
DAN, IT'S BEEN AGES
SINCE I'VE SEEN THIS
MANY OF HIS OVERSEAS
COLLEAGUES.

WHY MUST IT TAKE
A DEATH BETWEEN
ONE OF YOU TO MAKE
YOU ALL COME OUT
FROM BEHIND YOUR
SMART PHONES.

HA! TRUE INDEED.
I HEAR CHING'S REMAINS
AREN'T EVEN IN THE
STATES, BUT BACK IN HIS
HOMELAND, FOR MORE--
AUTHENTIC-- DEPARTING
SERVICES.

MY, MY, VIRAT,
I SEE YOU'VE UPGRADED
SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE
HELP DEPARTMENT.

YES, LOTUS IS
HIGHLY CAPABLE
IN MATTERS OF
BUSINESS AND
OPERATIONS.

SPEAKING
OF WHICH, DO
YOU HAVE A
MOMENT?

MEN. ALWAYS
BUSINESS. I GUESS I
SHOULD BLAME MYSELF
I OPENED THE DOOR
BRINGING UP THEIR
SMART PHONES
AND ALL.



CHING'S ACCOUNTS WILL RUN THROUGH YOUR NETWORK NOW.

THE ASSETS WE DECIDED UPON, BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE SCHOOL BELONGS TO YOU.

AH, YES. I'VE BECOME THE PRINCIPAL, AS IT WERE.



THIS IS NOT A JOKE.

I HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE MY LIFE MAY BE IN DANGER.

CHING ANSWERED TO FAR MORE POWERFUL PEOPLE THAN HIMSELF. MY ADVICE TO YOU-- BE CAREFUL WITH THE SCHOOL.



FUNNY. YOU SEE-- THAT'S WHY YOU'LL MAKE A GREAT 'PRINCIPAL.' ALWAYS CALM UNDER PRESSURE.

COME, MY FRIEND. A FUNERAL IS NO PLACE TO CONTEMPLATE DEATH.



IT SUITS ME WELL. COME, LET US PAY OUR RESPECTS.

NEW DELHI,
INDIA. NOW.

IT PLEASES
ME TO HAVE
PURPOSE
ONCE AGAIN.

SLEEP, IT
COMES EASIER
THESE DAYS.

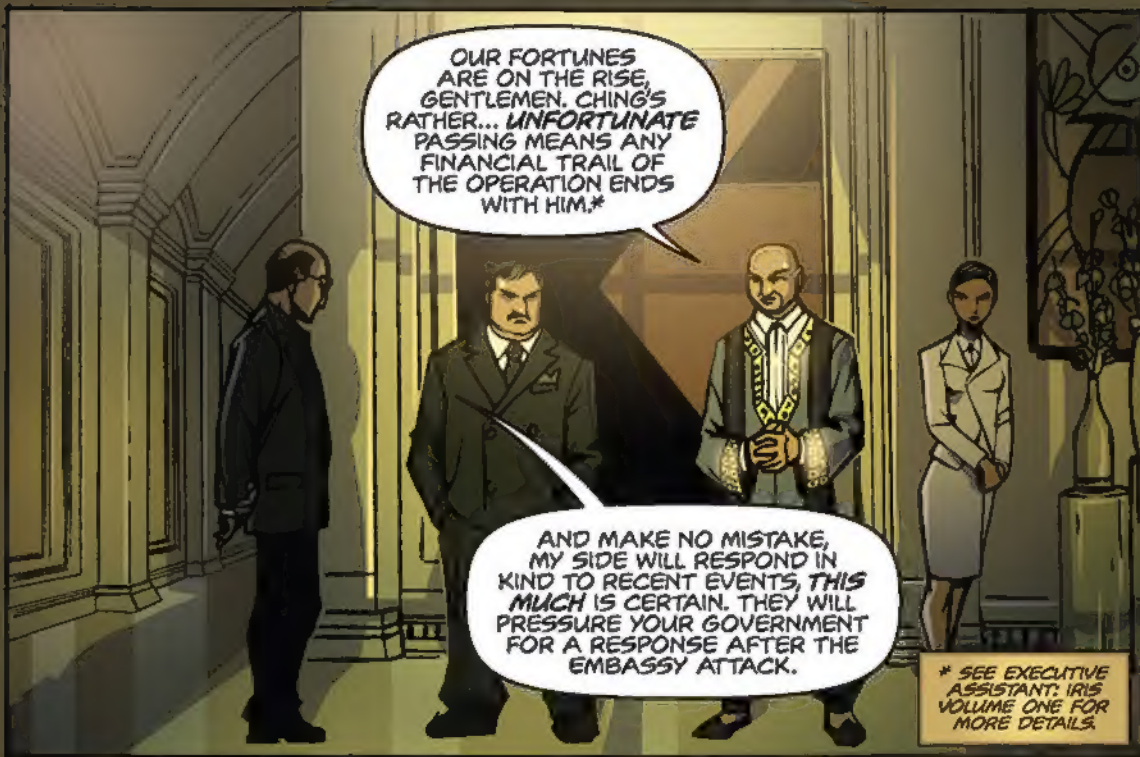
BUT STILL I RISE EARLY, I MAKE
SURE VIRAT IS SAFE AND SOUND
BEFORE I START MY DAY.

SO WHEN I HEAR HIS
VOICE OUTSIDE MY WINDOW
BEFORE I'M OUT OF BED,
MY INTEREST IS PIQUED.

SOON, I
WISH I HAD
SLEPT IN.

THE ISRAELI IS A GOVERNMENT
OFFICIAL. A POWER PLAYER. I KNOW
HIS IDENTITY BECAUSE I PASSED
ON A CONTRACT TO KILL HIM YEARS
AGO. THE MONEY WASN'T WORTH
THE EFFORT.

THE OTHER MAN IS A
PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT
OFFICIAL-- THE MAN WHO
PROPOSED TO US THE
EMBASSY OPERATION. THE
VERY FACT OF HIS
NATIONALITY RAISES MY
SUSPICION LEVEL EVEN MORE.
THIS IS NOT A COMBINING OF
POLITICAL AGENDAS SEEN
OFTEN IN THIS REGION.



OUR FORTUNES ARE ON THE RISE, GENTLEMEN. CHING'S RATHER... UNFORTUNATE PASSING MEANS ANY FINANCIAL TRAIL OF THE OPERATION ENDS WITH HIM.*

AND MAKE NO MISTAKE, MY SIDE WILL RESPOND IN KIND TO RECENT EVENTS, **THIS MUCH** IS CERTAIN. THEY WILL PRESSURE YOUR GOVERNMENT FOR A RESPONSE AFTER THE EMBASSY ATTACK.

* SEE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT: IRIS VOLUME ONE FOR MORE DETAILS.



AND WILL THEY VIRAT? CAN YOU PROMISE THIS?

IT MUST GO AS PLANNED, YOU UNDERSTAND?



YOUR PEOPLE HAVE BEEN ASKING FOR WAR FOR FAR TOO LONG. IT'S ABOUT TIME I PROVIDED IT FOR THEM.



EXCELLENT.

GENTLEMEN, I HATE TO BE RUDE, BUT I MUST ATTEND TO PRESSING MATTERS.

OF COURSE...



...AND MANY THANKS TO YOU, AS WELL, FOR YOUR RECENT HAND IN OUR OPERATIONS.





CORPORATE AND GEO-POLITICAL RESTRUCTURING.
RADICAL EXTREMISM. EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT SCHOOLS.
HOW DID I FIND MYSELF IN THIS POSITION?

I'M A
KILLER.

PLAIN AND
SIMPLE. IT'S
MY CALLING.

IT'S WHAT I'M
GOOD AT.

BUT AFTER THE EMBASSY.
AFTER THE... OTHER EVENTS
WE'VE ORCHESTRATED...

...I DON'T
KNOW WHAT I AM
ANYMORE.



DO YOU
KNOW WHAT
YOU ARE?

PERFECTION.

I'M FAR FROM
PERFECT, I CAN
ASSURE YOU
OF THAT.

I'VE
SEEN YOUR
WORKOUTS, AND
I BEG TO DIFFER.



IT WASN'T
ONE OF MY BEST
SETS AND YOU
KNOW IT.

SHOULD I
BE FLATTERED BY
YOUR PRAISE...

...OR
WORRIED
THAT YOU'RE
SUCH A GOOD
LIAR.

I KNOW
MUCH BETTER
THAN TO LIE TO
YOU, LOTUS.

REALLY.



WHICH IS WHY I'M
HERE. I WANT YOU TO
KNOW I WILL BE HEADING
TO MYANMAR IN SEVERAL
HOURS, AND I MUST
GO ALONE ON
THIS TRIP.

YOU DON'T
WANT ME TO
ACCOMPANY
YOU--

NOT THIS TIME. I
NEED YOU TO WATCH
OVER MY INTERESTS
HERE WHILE I'M
AWAY.



PLEASE, I'M FAR
MORE SUITED TO
PREVENT ANY DANGER
YOU MAY RUN INTO
THERE.

I'M GOING
TO VISIT THE
SCHOOL IN THE
VILLAGE OF
YANGON.

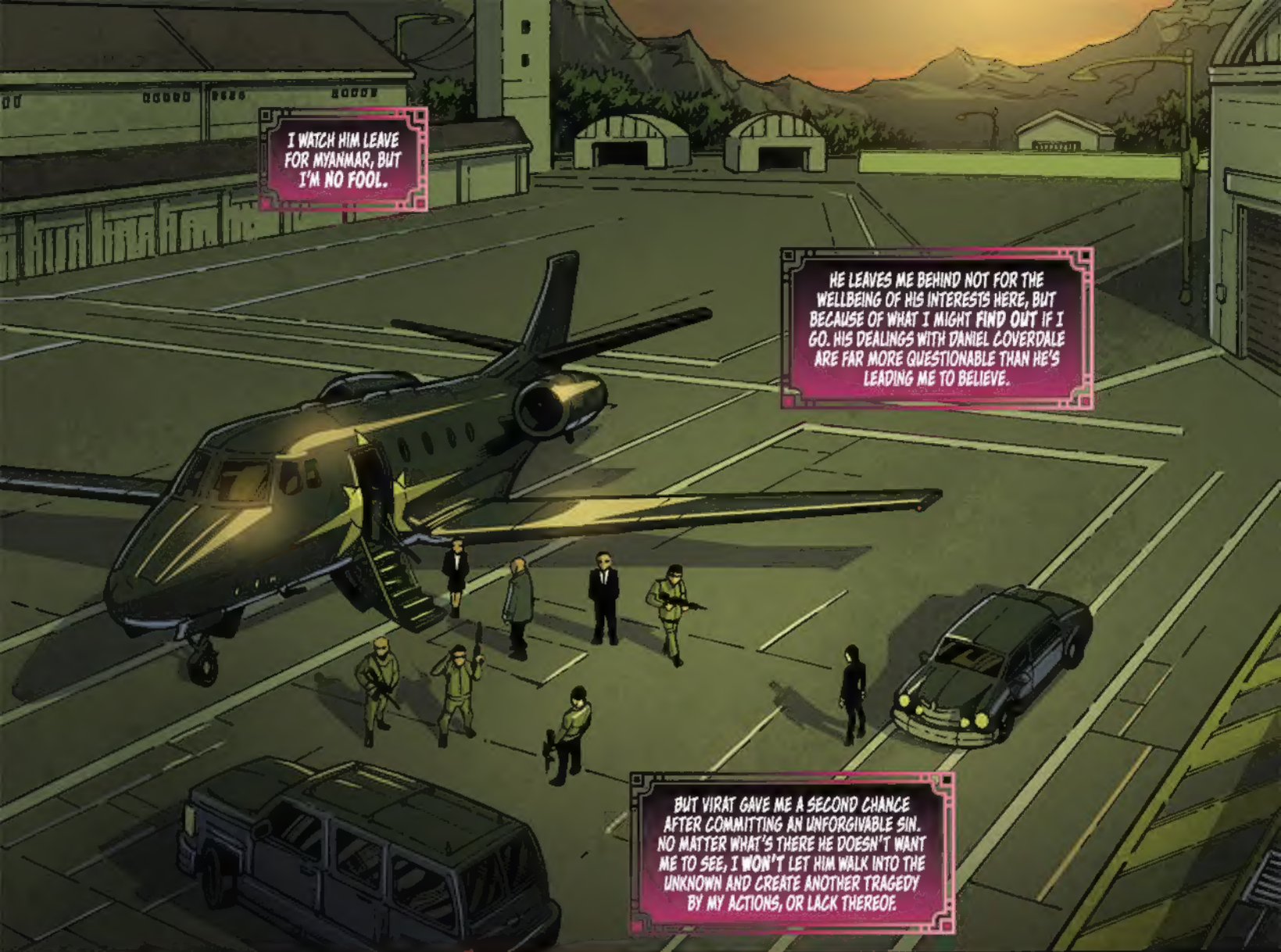
TO MAKE
SURE OUR NEW
INVESTMENT IS
NOT RUN INTO
THE GROUND
BY NOW.



THAT REGION
IS NOT WELCOMING
TO OUR KIND. AND
THOSE SCHOOLS, THEY
BREED KILLERS!
BELIEVE ME...

...YOU CANNOT
TRUST SOMEONE
TRAINED TO SPILL
BLOOD.

I WILL BE
FINE, LOTUS. I KNOW
YOU WORRY ABOUT
ME, BUT REMEMBER,
I OWN THE PLACE,
AFTER ALL.



I WATCH HIM LEAVE FOR MYANMAR, BUT I'M NO FOOL.

HE LEAVES ME BEHIND NOT FOR THE WELLBEING OF HIS INTERESTS HERE, BUT BECAUSE OF WHAT I MIGHT FIND OUT IF I GO. HIS DEALINGS WITH DANIEL COVERDALE ARE FAR MORE QUESTIONABLE THAN HE'S LEADING ME TO BELIEVE.

BUT VIRAT GAVE ME A SECOND CHANCE AFTER COMMITTING AN UNFORGIVABLE SIN. NO MATTER WHAT'S THERE HE DOESN'T WANT ME TO SEE, I WON'T LET HIM WALK INTO THE UNKNOWN AND CREATE ANOTHER TRAGEDY BY MY ACTIONS, OR LACK THEREOF.

I CALL ONE OF MY CONTACTS FROM MY PAST. SET UP A PLANE OF MY OWN TO DEPART IN THREE HOURS.

I TEXT ANOTHER CONTACT, SET UP MY LANDING.

THIS WILL HELP TO SAVE TIME.

VIRAT WILL FLY THERE, THEN TAKE A HALF DAY'S DRIVE TO THE SCHOOL. I'LL LOSE SOME TIME LEAVING SEVERAL HOURS AFTER, BUT MAKE IT UP IN OTHER WAYS.

I SIT FROZEN IN THE CAR FOR A MOMENT, WONDERING IF I SHOULD JUST DISAPPEAR ALTOGETHER. THIS PASSES QUICKLY, THERE IS NO TIME TO SPARE.





ISRAEL HAS STATED
THEY EXPECT A RESPONSE
TO THE EMBASSY BOMBING
SOONER RATHER THAN
LATER, OR THE EMBATTLED
NATION WILL RESPOND IN
FORCE. TENSIONS BETWEEN
INDIA AND PAKISTAN--
TWO NUCLEAR-POWERED
NATIONS, REMAIN HIGH
AT THIS POINT.

WITH ALL THE PARTICULARS
COVERED, I HEAD DOWNSTAIRS
FOR THE FUN PART.

THERE ARE SOME ENJOYABLE
MOMENTS FOR EVERY ASSASSIN.
THEY'RE LYING IF THEY SAY
OTHERWISE.



AND BESIDES,
I AM STILL A
WOMAN.

AND WE DO LIKE
TO ACCESSORIZE.

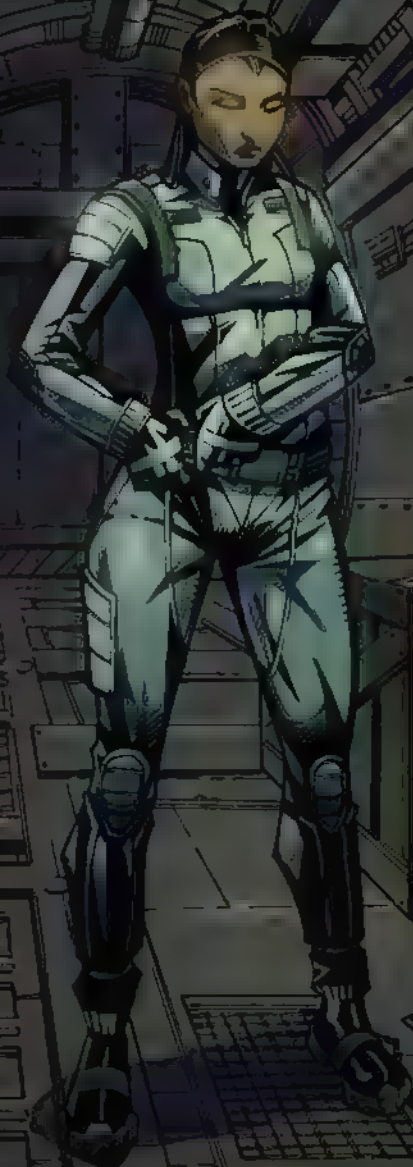


THE SKIES ABOVE
MYANMAR.



THE ACCOMMODATIONS WOULD MAKE
VIRAT CRINGE, A DE-COMMISSIONED
MILITARY PLANE. NO SEATS. NO
CABIN AND HOT TOWELS.

BUT I MUST SAY I
RELISH THE EXHILARATION
OF THE UNKNOWN.



DZ
COMING UP,
RANI.

IT'S
LOTUS
NOW.

WHATEVER
YOU SAY, RANI.
BE SAFE,
FRIEND.

THANK
YOU. I OWE
YOU ONE.

I
WON'T
LET YOU
FORGET
IT!



I NEED TO SET UP BEFORE VIRAT
ARRIVES. NEED TO SEE THIS PLACE
FOR MYSELF AND LIKE I SAID...



I GOTTA MAKE UP
TIME WHERE I CAN.



ONCE THERE, I MEET WITH A LOCAL CONTACT IN THE VILLAGE FOR A QUICK RUNDOWN OF THE SCHOOL. IMPROPER RECON WILL GET YOU KILLED. I MAKE THE TIME FOR THIS PRECAUTION.



THE SCHOOL LIES IN A SECLUDED PART OF THE VILLAGE. YOUR BEST CHANCE AT ANY SURVEILLANCE IS FROM INSIDE.

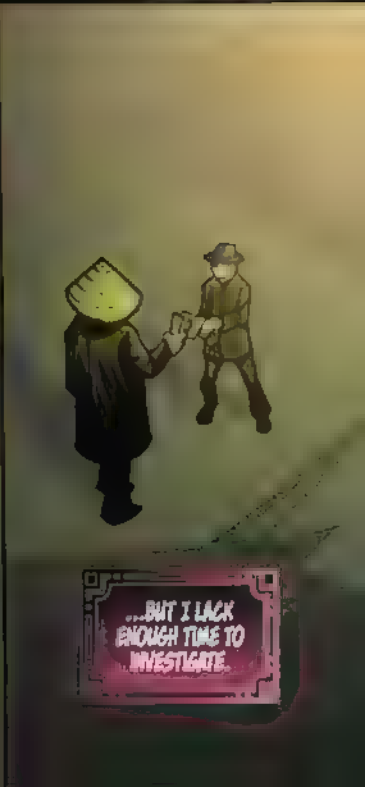
HE CONFIRMS WHAT I ALREADY SUSPECTED.




THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE EASY.



I SENSE MY CONTACT WAS WITHHOLDING SOMETHING...

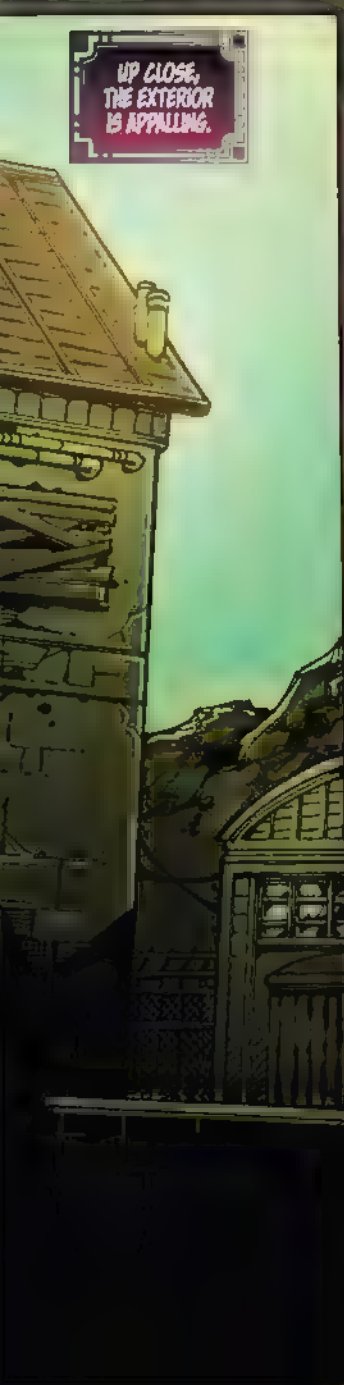


...BUT I LACK ENOUGH TIME TO INVESTIGATE.



IDEALLY, I WOULD NEVER
BREAK-AND-ENTER OR SET UP
SURVEILLANCE UNDER DAYLIGHT HOURS,
BUT THE TIMEFRAME DOESN'T ALLOW
FOR OTHERWISE.


VIRAT WILL BE HERE
IN A COUPLE OF HOURS--
MAYBE LESS.



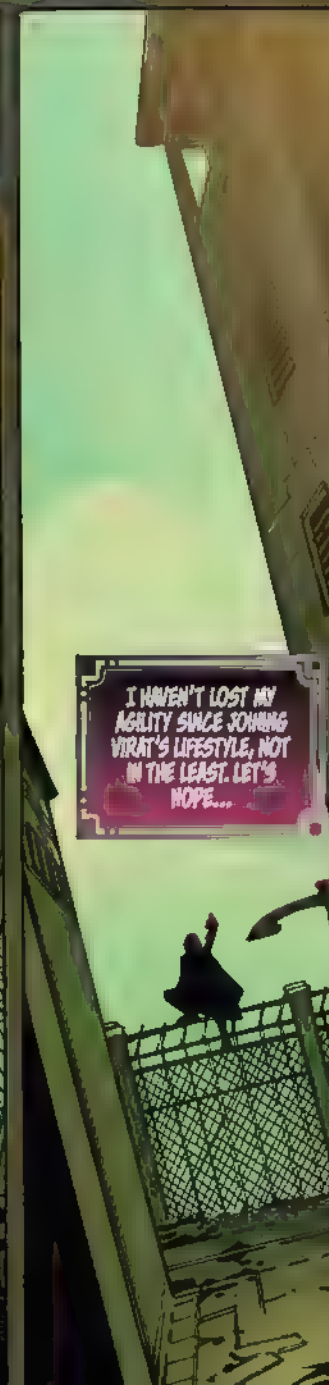
UP CLOSE,
THE EXTERIOR
IS APPALLING.



TIME TO
GET A BETTER
LOOK.




I HAVEN'T LOST MY
AGILITY SINCE JOINING
VIRAT'S LIFESTYLE, NOT
IN THE LEAST. LET'S
HOPE...



...MY AIM HASN'T
CHANGED EITHER.




IT LOOKS... EMPTY.
NOT GOOD.



PICKING UP NO
SOUNDS FROM INSIDE
AND IT'S MIDDAY--
ALSO, NOT GOOD.



MEANS I NEED TO
GO IN AND SEE FOR
MYSELF.



IN MY PREVIOUS LINE OF WORK, I HAD HEARD OF
ONE OF THE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT GRADUATES,
BUT NEVER OF THEIR TRAINING.



I DON'T KNOW
WHAT TO EXPECT...



I'M NOT EVEN SURE
WHAT THIS IS.

THIS LOOKS LIKE...
SOMETHING OUT OF A HORROR
FILM. WHAT COULD POSSIBLY
BE GOING ON HERE?

AND IS THAT...

BLOOD?

THIS IS ALL TOO MUCH.
I SHOULD REVEAL TO VIRAT
THAT I FOLLOWED HIM. BUT,
HE WOULD NEVER TRUST ME
AGAIN. NOT AFTER MY
PAST HISTORY—

—IF HE EVER
TRUSTED ME TO
BEGIN WITH.

WHATEVER IS GOING ON HERE,
VIRAT CAN'T BE SAFE. SO IT IS
UP TO ME TO PROTECT HIM.



PFFT

LOCKED
FROM THE OUTSIDE.
YES. NEVER A GOOD
SIGN. GLAD I PACKED
THE SILENCER.

THESE HALLS.

NOT VERY
ACADEMIC.



WOW.

HOW CAN THEY ALLOW
THEIR STUDENTS TO LIVE IN
THESE CONDITIONS...?



THIS IS TOO MUCH.
I NEED AIR.

~GASP~



SURPRISED?


VIRAT--??

SHOULDN'T I
BE THE ONE TAKEN
ABACK BY YOUR
APPEARANCE
HERE?



I--

NO NEED TO
EXPLAIN YOURSELF
I KNEW YOU'D
FOLLOW ME.



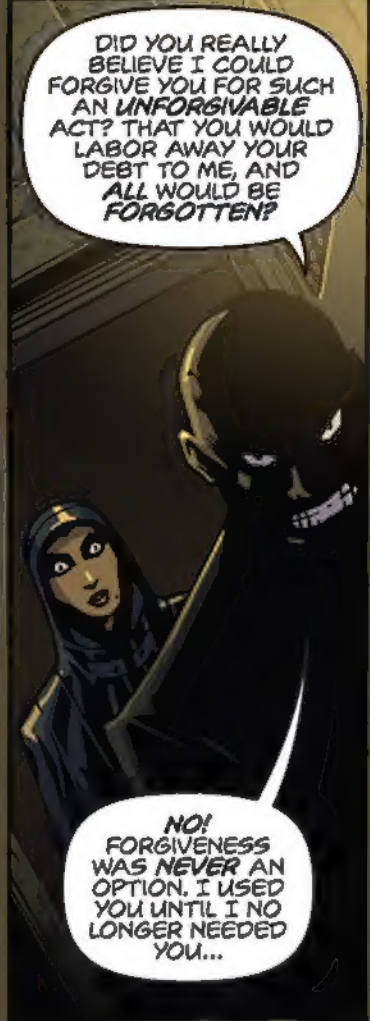
IT'S WHAT
YOU DO BEST--
LIE.

WELL,
BESIDES
MURDER.



I... I DON'T
UNDERSTAND.

SURE YOU
DO, YOU'RE MUCH
SMARTER THAN
YOU LET ON, RANI.
COME, FOLLOW
ME.



DID YOU REALLY
BELIEVE I COULD
FORGIVE YOU FOR SUCH
AN UNFORGIVABLE
ACT? THAT YOU WOULD
LABOR AWAY YOUR
DEBT TO ME, AND
ALL WOULD BE
FORGOTTEN?

NO!
FORGIVENESS
WAS NEVER AN
OPTION. I USED
YOU UNTIL I NO
LONGER NEEDED
YOU...



AND NOW...
YOU DIE!

TO BE CONCLUDED!
EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANT: LOTUS #3

Aspen's Executive Assistant
Event Continues!

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT A LOTUS

#3

MISSION: SURVIVE!

WRITER: VINCE HERNANDEZ

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COLORS: EMILIO LOPEZ

the Hit AGENDA

The Hit List Agenda Checklist

PRELUDE

EA: IRIS #0

PART ONE

EA: IRIS #1

EA: ORCHID #1

EA: LOTUS #1

EA: VIOLET #1

PART TWO

EA: IRIS #2

EA: ORCHID #2

EA: LOTUS #2

EA: VIOLET #2

PART THREE

EA: IRIS #3

EA: ORCHID #3

EA: LOTUS #3

EA: VIOLET #3

PART FOUR

EA: IRIS #4

PART FIVE

EA: IRIS #5



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ISSUE #3 of 3

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SHE'S A SECRETARY, BODYGUARD, AND ASSASSIN ALL ROLLED INTO ONE...



DON'T MISS OUT ON THESE OTHER GREAT EA CHAPTERS!



EMPIRE

K6